

"English translation of the amended sheets of
International Preliminary Examination Report"

CLAIMS

5 1. Electrostatic micro-switch intended to electrically connect at least two electrically conductive paths (4, 5) placed on a support, the electric connection between the two conductor paths (4, 10 5) being created by means of a contact stud (6) fitted to the distortion means (3) made in insulating material and capable of distorting in relation to the support, under the influence of an electrostatic force generated by control electrodes, the contact stud (6) 15 electrically connecting the ends (14, 15) of the two conductor paths (4, 5) when the distortion means are sufficiently distorted, characterised in that the control electrodes are laid out on the distortion means and the support in two sets of electrodes, a first set 20 of electrodes (101, 102, 33, 53) intended to generate a first electrostatic force to initiate the distorting of the distortion means (3) until it creates a mechanical contact with the distortion means, the ends (14, 15) of the conductor paths (4, 5) being sufficiently distanced 25 from each other so that the contact stud (6) does not electrically connect the ends of the conductor paths, a second set of electrodes (101, 102, 7, 8) intended to generate a second electrostatic force to continue the distorting of the distortion means (3) so that the 30 contact stud (6) electrically connects the ends (14, 15) of the two conductor paths.

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2. Electrostatic micro-switch according to claim
5 1, characterised in that the control electrodes (7, 8,
33, 53) laid out on the distortion means (3) are placed
on the latter so that the distortion means are
interposed between them and the control electrodes
(101, 102) laid out on the support.

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3. Electrostatic micro-switch according to claim
1, characterised in that the control electrodes laid
out on the support comprise two electrodes (101, 102)
each of which is a common electrode to the first set of
15 electrodes and to the second set of electrodes.

4. Electrostatic micro-switch according to claim
1, characterised in that the distortion means (3)
comprise a beam embedded at its two ends or a
20 cantilever beam.

5. Electrostatic micro-switch according to claim
4, characterised in that the control electrodes laid
out on the distortion means comprise the electrodes
25 (33, 53) of one of the two sets of electrodes placed on
the annex parts (13, 23) attached to the beam (3) and
fitted on each side of the beam.

6. Electrostatic micro-switch according to claim
30 5, characterised in that the control electrodes laid
out on the distortion means comprise the electrodes (7,
8) of the other of the two sets of electrodes placed on
the beam (3) and fitted on each side of the contact
stud (6).